

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING – DECEMBER 11, 2025

The Board of Education of the Aspen Peaks School District met in a board meeting on Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 6:02 PM. The board meeting took place in the boardroom at the Alpine School District office.

Board members present: President Diane Knight, Vice President Amber Bonner, Nicki Brammer, Jeanne-Marie Burrows, Jason Hart, Steven Sparti, and Jason Theler.

Also present: There were approximately 20 others in attendance.

President Diane Knight conducted the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board member Steve Sparti.

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT OR REFLECTION

An inspirational thought was given by Board member Jeanne-Marie Burrows.

Motion to amend the Board agenda to move community comments before the public hearing by Board member Sparti and seconded by Board member Burrows. The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Victoria Crockett of Lehi expressed opposition to the recent boundary changes that reassigned her children from North Point to River Rock. She stated that the adjustment is only a temporary solution as the area continues to grow. She urged the board to consider additional long-term solutions, including the construction of an elementary school on the Cold Springs Ranch property.

Lisa Johnson of Lehi, an intervention aide at North Point, expressed concern about the limited space available for aides to work with students, noting that instruction is often occurring in hallways and breezeways. She stated that this impacts the quality of education students receive. She acknowledged that ASD has made sincere efforts through boundary studies and adjustments and views the recent changes as a step in the right direction. She looks forward to progress within the new district but emphasized the need for facilities that meet current demands. She shared that her own children have experienced three boundary changes despite the family moving only once. She encouraged the board to consider creative, long-term solutions, noting that Lehi continues to grow, and urged planning for a future elementary school on the Cold Springs Ranch property rather than relying on temporary fixes.

Allison Powell of Lehi shared that her children currently attend North Point Elementary and will be moving to River Rock Elementary due to the recent boundary adjustments. She noted that enrollment projections indicate continued growth, with numbers expected to return to the 1,100 range. She emphasized the need to proceed with building Cold Springs before the two schools become overcrowded again. She stated that she voted in favor of the split based on the needs of the area and expressed hope that the board will move forward and help the neighborhood address ongoing growth.

Board member Burrows made the motion to adjourn from the board meeting to go into the public hearings and Vice President Bonner seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM. The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

OPENED BOARD MEETING AT 6:15 PM.

MINUTES

President Knight recommended the approval of the November board meeting minutes. Vice President Bonner made the motion to approve the November board meeting minutes, and it was seconded by Board member Theler. The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

1. FY26 Budget

Vice President Bonner explained that SB188 provides a stipend in January 2026, which falls mid-fiscal year, requiring the district to establish a budget for the remainder of the fiscal year. She reviewed how the budget has been structured, outlining the purpose of each line item, while emphasizing fiscal responsibility and the importance of reserving funds for carryover.

Vice President Bonner made the motion to approve the FY26 budget, and it was seconded by Board member Hart. The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Board member Theler noted that discussions have also taken place with the other two (2) districts, which are approving similar budgets for comparable reasons. He stated that all three (3) districts are taking a conservative approach by budgeting higher than anticipated expenditures to account for both known and unknown costs.

2. Board Member Compensation

Board member Brammer reiterated that the Board will adopt Alpine School District policies and make adjustments as deemed appropriate. She noted that the district has chosen to continue with the ASD compensation structure but is exploring minor modifications to achieve cost savings. One option under consideration is offering a stipend equal to the cost of an individual benefits plan, in lieu of accepting ASD benefits, estimated at approximately \$800 per month.

Vice President Bonner noted that this is a win-win for both the district and board members. For those who already receive benefits, the stipend is effective and also provides cost savings for the district.

President Knight –advised they will present this for a vote at the January board meeting.

3. District Wide Boundary Study

Board member Jason Hart reported that the Board has been exploring multiple options and engaging in ongoing discussions. A district-wide boundary study is being considered to redraw boundaries and help alleviate overcrowding in our communities. He noted that during today's Study Session, the Board received a presentation on capital planning, which provided several options for review and discussion.

Board member Burrows commended ASD staff for clearly explaining the data and providing valuable information. She encouraged those who were not present to review the Study Session recording from earlier today. Enrollment numbers for both overcrowded and underenrolled schools were discussed, along with the options under consideration. She emphasized the importance of looking at the district as a whole to support all schools.

Board member Brammer thanked community members who spoke. She highlighted discussions about areas where boundaries span two districts and stressed the need for a boundary study to evaluate solutions that benefit all communities and enable informed decisions.

Vice President Bonner expressed support for a district-wide boundary study. She noted that different areas face unique boundary-related challenges, with some schools overcrowded and others underenrolled. She emphasized the need to review the feeder system to reduce impacts on students and limit movement across multiple secondary schools.

President Knight addressed the Cold Springs Ranch area, assuring residents that no decisions have been made yet and all available information is being gathered to ensure the best possible decision. She noted that ASD has adjusted boundaries to provide temporary relief while planning next steps for the North Point Elementary area.

4. District Logo Contest

Board member Burrows, Chair of the Communications Committee, noted that as a brand-new district, there are many foundational tasks to address, including developing a logo and establishing the district's brand. She proposed holding a student contest for high school students to design the new logo. While details are still being finalized, the contest is expected to be announced next week, allowing students to work on submissions over Christmas break, with the contest closing at the end of January. The new Superintendent will have input on the submissions, and the winner is planned to be announced in February. The community will also have the opportunity to vote for their favorite design. Discussions are underway with Adobe to have students collaborate with their employees to refine their designs professionally. A prize for the winner is being considered. Board member Burrows expressed excitement about involving both students and the community in launching the district.

Board member Theler shared personal experience with a similar process as a student and later as the principal at Thunder Ridge, where they helped select a school name, mascot, and logo. He highlighted how fun and engaging the process can be and expressed confidence that students will be enthusiastic about participating.

President Knight noted the committee seems to be in agreement on the upcoming timeline and they are excited to get to work.

5. Open Business Administrator Search

Board member Theler motioned to open the Business Administrator search and appoint USBA to assist with that search, and it was seconded by Vice President Bonner.

Board member Brammer inquired whether the Board has considered using an alternative to USBA for the Business Administrator position. She noted that USBA is currently handling the Superintendent search, and based on that experience and conversations, it may be worthwhile to explore other options, given that the role is more business-focused than educational.

Vice President Bonner expressed openness to using a headhunter or pursuing more mainstream options if there is interest.

Board member Theler noted that the fee charged by USBA already covers the Business Administrator search, including assistance with the brochure and its distribution. He emphasized that this service has already been paid for but can explore other avenues while taking advantage of the brochure and distribution assistance.

Vice President Bonner proposed amending the motion to read: "Open the Business Administrator search and direct the search committee to explore additional options" and asked if that would be a friendly motion.

Board member Theler concurred.

Vice President Bonner amended the motion to: "Open the Business Administrator search and empower the Business Administrator Search Committee to explore options for finding a Business Administrator," which was seconded by Board Member Sparti. The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

6. Initiate the Process to Create School District Foundation, 501c3

President Knight motioned to initiate the process of creating an Aspen Peaks School District 501c3, a non-profit foundation, and it was seconded by Board member Burrows.

Board member Sparti Asked whether this will be structured as an actual foundation or a committee.

Vice President Bonner responded that a committee needs to be formed first to begin the process, including establishing a 501(c)(3) and negotiating with the other two (2) districts on how to divide the Alpine Foundation.

President Knight noted that the application process takes several months. Once approved, the district can accept donations and operate in good faith. She emphasized the importance of starting the process now to begin receiving contributions for the district.

Board member Burrow highlighted the success of the ASD Foundation and expressed appreciation for moving forward with this initiative. She shared a personal experience with "Subs for Santa," noting it was a special opportunity for her children.

Board member Brammer agreed with the previous comments, noting that the foundation has been impactful and that the local district area has contributed significantly to ASD. She mentioned legislative

changes and that establishing a foundation primarily requires setting up a bank account. She offered assistance based on her prior experience and noted the many opportunities a foundation can provide.

Board member Hart emphasized that as a new district, the foundation will benefit both educators and students, highlighting his perspective as an educator.

The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

7. Appoint Chair of School District Foundation, 501c3, Committee

President Knight nominated Vice President Bonner as the Chair of the Aspen Peaks School District 501c3 Non-profit Foundation Committee and Board member Burrows seconded it.

Board member Theler Commented that **Vice President Bonner's** presence and personality make her an excellent ambassador for engaging local businesses and organizations, and expressed excitement to see her efforts in action.

Vice President Bonner assured **Board member Brammer** that she does not need to handle this alone and welcomed any assistance she may wish to offer.

Vice President Bonner accepted the nomination.

The Board voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Vice President Bonner noted that updates were posted on her social media pages at the end of the previous week. While it may appear that little has been happening publicly, she emphasized that significant work is taking place behind the scenes. Board members have been meeting with individuals to set things up, learning what needs to be accomplished, and reaching out to patrons, students, staff, and parents to gather input. She expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts, with a shared goal of ensuring positive outcomes for students, teachers, staff, and the community. She encouraged the public to reach out with questions or feedback through the Alpine School District website using the feedback button, email, or active social media channels. She noted that gathering multiple perspectives and viewpoints is essential to success and expressed appreciation to those who have already reached out to share their input.

Board member Theler expressed gratitude for the support provided by Rich Stowell at USBA, including examples of previous brochures to assist with the Superintendent search. He noted that the outcome of the brochure was excellent and it is now available at USBA.com, showcasing engaging pictures and imagery from the community that make it appealing to prospective Superintendent candidates. He highlighted the enjoyment of collaborating on the project and expressed enthusiasm for assisting with the upcoming Business Administrator brochure.

Board member Burrows thanked community members who have reached out, emphasizing that the Board values their information and feedback. She noted that the seven (7) board members represent a much larger community and expressed gratitude to ASD staff for their hard work and support. She also thanked fellow board members for their dedication, acknowledging the many hours already invested and wished everyone a great break.

Board member Brammer thanked ASD employees for their efforts. She shared a personal note about being friends with Sarah Beeson despite being on different sides of the split conversation, noting that it took several years for Jordan and Canyons staff to move past hard feelings. She praised ASD employees for their outstanding work, serving four (4) districts and providing high-quality information and support. She highlighted their kindness and professionalism in assisting with the transition to the new districts.

Board member Hart thanked the community for their feedback and encouraged continued input. He highlighted the unique opportunity to build a new district, noting that such an opportunity is uncommon. He shared that the Superintendent search has already generated significant interest and emphasized the potential for further community involvement. He expressed deep gratitude to ASD, acknowledging that their staff are effectively doing four (4) times the work and thanked them for their efforts.

President Knight noted that although it feels much longer, it has only been sixteen (16) days since the Board was sworn in. She expressed admiration for the community and those who serve and educate students, emphasizing

that they are the reason the Board exists. She shared deep respect and gratitude for the ASD team, who have welcomed the Board, addressed every request regardless of size, and provided unwavering support. She also expressed appreciation for the board members and the community for their support.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Vice President Bonner and seconded by Board member Hart, the meeting adjourned into a closed session to discuss personnel, property, litigation, and collective bargaining at 6:57 PM. The Board Members who voted in favor were President Diane Knight, Vice President Amber Bonner, Nicki Brammer, Jeanne-Marie Burrows, Jason Hart, Steven Sparti, and Jason Theler.

MINUTES OF THE CLOSED SESSION – DECEMBER 11, 2025

The Board of Education of the Aspen Peaks School District met in a closed session on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 7:04 PM. The meeting was held in the administrative conference room at the Alpine School District office.

Board members present: President Diane Knight, Vice President Amber Bonner, Nicki Brammer, Jeanne-Marie Burrows, Jason Hart, Steven Sparti, and Jason Theler.

Also present: Interim Superintendent Smith of the Alpine School District.

The purpose of the closed session was to discuss personnel, property, litigation, and collective bargaining.

ADJORNMENT

On motion by Vice President Bonner and seconded by Board member Brammer, the meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.